

the God of our fathers, mindful of the words of the Psalms: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 17, as National Day of Prayer, 1973. I ask that on this day the people of the United States join in reaffirming our dependence on God's grace, beseeching His blessings on our endeavors and His guidance in the search for peace, reconciliation, and goodwill among all people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and ninety-eighth.



PROCLAMATION 4249

Veterans Day, 1973

October 5, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As America enjoys the blessings of peace for the first time in more than a dozen years, it is appropriate that we should pay special honor to those whose service helped us to achieve it.

We salute our veterans on a day of their own each year, a day on which we express our pride in them and our awareness of a debt to them which can never fully be repaid.

At no period in our history has there been more reason to call the Nation's attention to the achievements of its veterans than today. Never before has peace been more welcome nor prospects for its permanence more substantial.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby call on all Americans to join in observing Monday, October 22, 1973, as Veterans Day. I urge both public ceremony and private contemplation in recognition of the precious gifts of freedom and security that are ours because those we honor have stood in our defense.

Let us give special consideration on that day to those who have died in our Nation's wars and those who have been disabled. Let this be a day of remembrance for those veterans who are in our hospitals, a day on which our appreciation is expressed tangibly by our visits and our attention.

Further, let this be a day on which all Americans take special cognizance of the needs of those young veterans who are currently readjusting to civilian life; let us give them personal help and encouragement.

I direct the appropriate officials of Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on this day. I request officials of Federal, State and local governments to support its observance and I urge schools, churches, unions, civic and patriotic organizations to participate in appropriate public ceremonies throughout the Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.



PROCLAMATION 4250

National School Lunch Week, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

October 12, 1973

A Proclamation

The National School Lunch Program—now in its twenty-seventh year—works to ensure nutritious and well-balanced meals to young people in our country. Since its inception, the National School Lunch Program, in close partnership with State and local communities, has provided food, funds, and technical assistance in a comprehensive program of child nutrition.

Today, more than 25 million youngsters participate in the program daily. In recent years, a determined and consistent effort has been made to extend the program's benefits to schools that do not have lunch or other food programs for their students.

Because of the special need for good nutrition among high school students and the challenge of achieving their full participation in the program, innovative efforts to make the program more relevant to the needs and experience of today's high school students are now under way.